

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF THE
ISLE OF AXHOLME

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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR
1966





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Rural District Council of the Isle of Axholme

1966

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor A. Proctor (Crowle)

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor S. G. Slatford (Wroot)

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor J. R. Glew (Keadby-with-Althorpe)—South Ward

Councillor W. Mills (Amcotts)

Councillor Mrs. B Hill (Epworth)

Councillor A. E. Hackney (Belton)

Councillor Mrs. E. N. Johnson, J.P. (Belton)

Councillor H. W. Clark (Belton)

Councillor F. W. Clark, M.B.E. (Crowle)

Councillor Miss A. M. Cranidge (Crowle)

Councillor C. Ovington (Crowle)

Councillor A. Proctor (Crowle)

Councillor A. B. Wise (Crowle)

Councillor P. Wickenden, J.P. (Eastoft)

Councillor Mrs. A. M. Macgregor, J.P. (Epworth)

Councillor H. A. Morris (Epworth)

Councillor J. B. Everatt (Garthorpe)

Councillor W. Bradbury (Haxey)

Councillor H. R. O. Chipp, J.P. (Haxey)

Councillor R. Edwards (Haxey)

Councillor W. W. Millett (Keadby-with-Althorpe) —

North Ward

Councillor G. L. Craggs (Keadby-with-Althorpe) —

Central Ward

Councillor J. R. Glew (Keadby-with-Althorpe) —

South Ward

Councillor R. E. Cock (Luddington)

Councillor R. G. Simms (Owston Ferry)

Councillor R. W. Fletcher (Owston Ferry)

Councillor R. B. North (West Butterwick)

Councillor S. G. Slatford (Wroot)

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL:

S. W. Chester, Esq., A.C.C.S.

R.D.C. Offices, The Gables, Epworth, Doncaster

Rural District Council of the Isle of Axholme

Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health:
WILLIAM C. WARD

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

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Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector:

G. C. EDGINTON
F.I.A.S., A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

A. J. ROBINSON
M.A.P.H.I.

J. M. TODD
M.A.P.H.I.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1966

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural
District Council of the Isle of Axholme

Public Health Department,
The Guildhall,
Gainsborough.
Tel. No. 2381.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1966 on the health and sanitary circumstances of your district.

VITAL STATISTICS

The vital statistics are good and compare favourably with those for the country as a whole.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The number of cases notified during the year was 48, of which 37 were measles, six whooping cough, two dysentery, one erysipelas and one tuberculosis.

There have been few cases of diphtheria in this country in recent years. This satisfactory position has been reached through the immunisation programme which has been actively pursued to get as many children as possible immunised against diphtheria.

Although there is little diphtheria in this country many cases still occur in other countries. In 1965, 264 cases of diphtheria were notified in France, 324 in Germany, and in Italy there were 2,630. When one considers the vast numbers who holiday abroad one can appreciate how easily the disease could be imported into this country. We must be vigilant and continue to make every effort to see that all our children are protected by immunisation.

The dangers of tetanus and poliomyelitis are real, and vaccination against these diseases is available. Children should also be vaccinated against these diseases.

SMOKING

In England and Wales over 27,025 people died from cancer of the lung in 1966. Deaths from this disease continue to rise. The following table will give some idea of the size of the increase in deaths from cancer of the lung.

ENGLAND AND WALES: DEATHS FROM CANCER OF THE LUNG

1950	...	...	...	...	12,241
1955	...	...	...	...	17,199
1960	...	...	...	...	22,000
1965	...	...	...	...	26,398
1966	...	...	...	...	27,025

Some people try to explain away the increase by saying lung cancer was not diagnosed years ago and many cases were missed. This is not so; adequate methods of diagnosis have existed long before the present rise in deaths from lung cancer. Others say the cause of lung cancer is not known. This is true; however, there is sufficient evidence to show there is a relationship between smoking and lung cancer. The evidence is all there if one wishes to read it. The Report of the Royal College of Physicians 1962, entitled "Smoking and Health," is quite cheap and makes very interesting reading.

There have been numerous surveys in many countries on the smoking habits of patients with lung cancer and those of patients of the same age and sex with other diseases. All have shown that more lung cancer patients are smokers, and more of them heavy smokers, than are the controls. Prospective studies, in which the smoking habits of a defined large group have been studied, and the causes of death observed over years, have confirmed the association between smoking and lung cancer. They all show a steady increase in numbers of deaths from lung cancer with increasing cigarette consumption.

Cancer of the lung is not the only bad result of smoking. Chronic bronchitis is made much worse by smoking. Heavy smokers more frequently have coronary artery disease than non-smokers and many other diseases are made worse by heavy smoking.

It is also known that giving up smoking cigarettes or changing to smoking cigars or a pipe reduces the risk of getting lung cancer and also reduces the disability from chronic bronchitis. We should encourage heavy cigarette smokers to change their smoking habits and our prime aim should be to persuade the young not to start a habit which they may have, even though they wish, the greatest difficulty in stopping later on in life.

There has been a marked decrease in the number of British doctors who smoke and this is reflected in the fact that theirs is said to be the only occupation to show a decline in the incidence of lung cancer in the past ten years. This has been stated by Dr. J. Wakefield of the Christie & Holt Radium Institute in Manchester.

Smoking cigarettes starts very young in children; some say at the age of 11 to 12 years. We must try and find a way to convince them that smoking is expensive, a risk to their health and an unnecessary habit to acquire. Parents, teachers and doctors can exercise a strong influence if they show by example that they themselves do not smoke. Example is stronger than publicity.

FOOD HYGIENE

This year the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Minister of Health made the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966. These Regulations lay down standards of food hygiene to be observed in respect of handling or trading in food either in any market or market premises or away from fixed premises. Delivery vehicles are also covered by the Regulations.

The principal requirements of these Regulations relate to:

- (i) the cleanliness of stalls and delivery vehicles used in any food business and the equipment used therein;
- (ii) the hygienic handling of food;
- (iii) the cleanliness of persons engaged in the handling of food and of their clothing, and the action to be taken where they suffer from or are the carriers of certain infections liable to cause food poisoning;
- (iv) the temperatures at which certain foods particularly liable to transmit disease are to be kept at markets and stalls;
- (v) the provision of water supply and washing facilities;
- (vi) the proper disposal of waste material;
- (vii) the granting by local authorities of certificates of exemption from certain of the requirements, with a right of appeal to a magistrates' court against the refusal or withdrawal of a certificate.

The increase in communal feeding during and after the second World War and the rising figures of food poisoning notifications revealed that food hygiene was not being adequately practised in food businesses, and that some form of control was needed.

Under the 1955 Food and Drugs Act, food hygiene legislation was brought into operation on a nation-wide basis. During the past ten years there has been a marked improvement in the standards of food hygiene observed in food shops and catering premises, both in regard to the condition of premises, and the food handling practices. The same cannot be said of market stalls, mobile shops and other outdoor positions from which food is sold. The Regulations of 1955 and 1960 did not provide adequate means of securing satisfactory control of open air food trading. The need to strengthen legislation has been apparent for some time and now this year we have the new Regulations which should prove more successful in obtaining better hygienic conditions and practices in the open air food business.

Mobile shops have become popular in recent years. There are on sale purpose-constructed vehicles with built-in refrigerators and washing facilities.

The increase in sale of pre-packed food and the use of such a vehicle reduce problems of hygiene to a minimum. There are, however, still a number of converted buses, coaches, vans, etc., touring the estates and countryside. When these are operated by unco-operative traders it is difficult to enforce regulations because they pass from one local authority to another and one cannot be certain of their whereabouts. The public should not buy food from any such unhygienic vehicles.

Street markets are regarded sentimentally by many as typical of the urban scene and hygiene is often regarded as a superfluous refinement. In the past rejectable refuse has often been allowed to accumulate; the surfaces of stalls have often been of most unsuitable construction; dirty hands and equipment were commonplace; vendors' clothing was frequently unsuitable for hygienic practices, and the legal machinery did not help the task of securing observance of good clean practices at these market food stalls. The 1966 Regulations will help to secure an improvement.

How does one achieve hygienic handling of food? There is no doubt that legislation has helped with those engaged in the food trade but the greatest improvement has been by the persuasive efforts of public health workers, supported by the active co-operation of most managements and employees. It has not been easy to get the customer to insist on the observance of clean food practices in the shop he or she patronises. The insistence of the public on good clean practices in the food trade would more quickly secure higher standards of hygiene than could be obtained by the enforcement of regulations.

STAFF

I am grateful to many of my colleagues for the information concerning their departments included in this report. I should particularly like to thank Dr. C. D. Cormac, County Medical Officer of Health, Lindsey County Council, and his staff, for making available the information relating to the County Health Department. I also thank Mr. Edginton, Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, who got together quite a considerable amount of the details contained in this report.

I should also like to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, and members of the Council for their support during the year.

Mr. Knowles left the employment of the Council at the beginning of the year to take up an appointment with Blackburn Rural District Council. We wish him every success in his new appointment. Mr. J. M. Todd joined the staff in May, 1966, and he came from Lincoln County Borough. I hope that he and his family will settle in the area and that he may have a very happy time in this area. I wish him every success in his new position.

Finally, I wish to record my thanks to the staff of my own department, Mr. Edginton, Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Todd, Additional Public Health Inspectors; and also the clerical staff, for their loyal co-operation and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. C. WARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of the Rural District	51,104 acres
Estimated Population	14,510
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1966	£435,974
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	£1,750

The district is a flat stretch of land forming the North-Western portion of Lincolnshire. It is bounded to the North and West by the West Riding of Yorkshire, to the South by Nottingham and to the East by the River Trent.

The drainage of the area has resulted in this becoming a very fertile food producing district. The essential industry is agriculture with its usual small ancillary industries.

A large grain silo and seed dressing depot and a grass drying plant are situated in Epworth. There is a dehydrating plant at Crowle where all types of foods are processed. A very large electricity generating station, owned by the British Electricity Authority, is at Keadby. Other industries include Tillage Works, Brickyards, Agriculture Machinery and Builders' businesses.

METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS

The following records are kept by the geography masters at the North Axholme Secondary Modern School. The readings were made by senior pupils at the school's John Wright weather station. I should like to thank the headmaster, Mr. D. E. Cornelius, for supplying the following information.

1966 METEOROLOGICAL DATA

Latitude 53 degrees 35' N. Longitude 0 degrees 49' W. Height above sea level, 12ft.

	Average daily maximum	Average daily minimum	Average mean temp.	Monthly total of rain	Days with rain	Hours of sunshine	Daily sunshine average	% of possible sunshine
January	39.96	32.38	36.17	1.76	22	28.2	0.91	11.4
February	46.10	36.56	41.33	4.02	21	48.2	1.72	24.0
March	50.22	36.77	43.49	1.05	15	114.9	3.70	31.0
April	49.30	38.71	44.01	2.79	22	93.1	3.10	21.1
May	61.48	42.64	52.06	1.61	13	221.9	7.16	45.0
June	67.53	50.83	59.18	2.29	15	152.3	5.07	29.8
July	66.64	50.37	58.51	2.74	18	149.0	4.80	29.1
August	67.61	50.64	59.13	4.44	14	176.6	5.66	38.0
September	64.87	49.10	56.99	1.68	7	121.4	4.05	31.1
October	56.51	44.77	50.64	2.56	14	77.9	2.51	23.8
November	46.73	35.70	41.21	1.68	20	68.4	2.28	26.7
December	45.09	34.48	39.79	1.79	14	49.7	1.60	21.6

METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS — cont.

Range of mean annual temp. ...	23.01 degrees F.
Annual mean maximum temp. ...	55.17 degrees F. (56 county average)
Annual mean minimum temp. ...	41.91 degrees F. (42 county average)
Annual mean average temp. ...	48.54 degrees F. (49 county average)
Total annual rainfall	28.41 inches (local average—approx. 23 inches)
Total sunshine hours for year ...	1300.6 hours
% of possible annual sunshine attained	29.1% (34% county average)

Table of extreme maximum and extreme minimum temperatures:

	J.	F.	M.	A.	M.	J.	J.	A.	S.	O.	N.	D.	Year
Extreme maximum	55	57	55	72	78	75	75	79	71	63	54	53	79
Extreme minimum	18	25	29	32	35	42	43	40	37	30	26	25	18

NORTH AXHOLME SECONDARY SCHOOL, CROWLE, 1966

METEOROLOGICAL DATA — CONCLUSIONS

RAINFALL

1966 gave a total of 28.41 inches, which is well in excess of the local averages of 21.48 at Finningley (1942-65), 24.38 at West Butterwick (1932-66) and 23.60 at North Level Pumping Station, Dintess (1916 to 1950). February, with 4.02 inches created difficulties on the land as it followed the exceptionally wet September, November and December of 1965. July with 2.74 inches and August with 4.44 inches were wet holiday months, whilst April, June and October were also wetter than average. Only March and November were significantly drier than usual. Rainfall was measured on 195 days, although counting traces, precipitation occurred on 215 days. Of the 195 days, on 133 of them at least 0.04in. of rain occurred and satisfied the Air Ministry as being "wet." January with 22, February with 21, April with 22 and July with 18 days of rain were the individual months with the highest number of rain days.

SUNSHINE

The total of 1300.6 hours in the year was 29.1% of the total possible and a daily mean of 3.56 hours. This figure is slightly below what is considered average for the county as a whole but it is known that the sunshine average diminishes north and westwards across Lincolnshire. There is a paucity of sunshine records for Lincolnshire and in time the Crowle readings look like providing valuable data in an area of the county which hitherto had no records. Sunny months were March (plus 3%), May (plus 7%), August (plus 3%), November (plus 5%) and December (plus 5%), whilst January (minus 7%), April (minus 14%), June (minus 7%), July (minus 3%), September (minus 3%) and October (minus 6%) were the months which failed to reach the nearest climatological average. The plus % or minus % represents the % difference between the % actually obtained and the % attained on average at R.A.F. Finningley.

METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS — cont.

TEMPERATURE

As the mean monthly temperatures indicate, the year was generally cooler than average. January, April, July, August, November and December had mean temperatures below normal and, of these, April was the most significant in the first half of the year with a mean temperature of 3.8 degrees F. below normal. The "summer" months of July and August were respectively 3.1 degrees F. and 2.8 degrees F. below average whilst the winter month of November was 2.8 degrees F. below average, giving rise to fears (later proved groundless) that the 1966-1967 winter might be a chilly one.

The cold Spring is borne out by the fact that 60 degrees F. was not attained until 27th April (followed surprisingly by 72 degrees F. on the 30th).

The last air frost in 1966 was on 16th April. May with its excellent sunshine, including a sunny Whitsuntide week-end, brought an extreme maximum of 78 degrees F. on the 2nd and 70 degrees F. or more was achieved again in June, July, August and September, with the year's extreme of 79 degrees F. in August. The first frost of Autumn occurred on 24th October. The extreme minimum of the year was 18 degrees F. on 19th January.

COLLATION OF DATA

The meteorological readings from which this annual summary has been prepared were the work of senior pupils of the school at the John Wright Weather Station, under the direction of Mr. B. J. Hastings, geography master.

VITAL STATISTICS

Vital statistics are calculated on estimated population as supplied by the Registrar General.

Births

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births—Legitimate	215	107	108
Illegitimate... ..	13	9	4
	<hr/>		
Totals	228	116	112
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	Total	Male	Female
Still Births—Legitimate	4	2	2
Illegitimate... ..	—	—	—
	<hr/>		
Totals	4	2	2
	<hr/>		

	Isle of Axholme R.D.C.	England & Wales
Birth Rate per 1,000 population:		
Live Births	15.71	17.7
Still Births	0.075	0.275
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total		
Live and Still Births	17.24	15.4

Deaths

	Total	Male	Female
ALL CAUSES	171	97	74
	<hr/>		
	Isle of Axholme R.D.C.	England & Wales	
Revised Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.78	11.7	
Maternal Mortality:			
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	Nil	221	
Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	Nil	0.256	

Infant Deaths

	Total	Male	Female
Under 1 year—Legitimate... ..	5	4	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	5	4	1

	Total	Male	Female
Under 4 weeks—Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	2	1	1

	Total	Male	Female
Under 1 week	1	—	1

	Isle of Axholme R.D.C.	England & Wales
Infant Mortality Rate (i.e., under 1 year):		
All infants per 1,000 live births	21.93	18.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	23.26	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births... ..	Nil	
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (i.e., under 4 weeks)		
All infants per 1,000 live births	8.62	12.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	9.3	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births... ..	Nil	
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (i.e., still births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total births)	21.155	26.3

COMPARATIVE TABLE

RURAL DISTRICT OF THE ISLE OF AXHOLME Population: 14,510	Live Births		Deaths (All causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of leaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births	Total		Neo-Natal	
									No. of leaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 live births
Year 1966	228	15.71	171	11.78	4	17.24	Nil	Nil	5	21.93	2	8.62
Year 1965	257	18.42	134	9.31	3	11.54	Nil	Nil	3	11.67	3	11.67
Year 1964	264	18.46	155	10.84	4	14.92	Nil	Nil	5	18.94	5	18.94
Year 1963	240	17.14	172	12.29	2	8.22	Nil	Nil	8	12.5	1	4.16
Year 1962	160	18.37	160	11.67	7	16.22	Nil	Nil	8	30.77	7	26.92
Year 1961	220	16.02	172	12.64	2	9.01	Nil	Nil	4	18.18	3	13.64
Average 5 years— 1961 — 1965	—	17.68	—	11.35	—	13.98	—	—	—	18.41	—	15.07

Summary of the Principal Causes of Death, 1966
(Registrar-General's Official Returns, 1966)

All Causes: 171 — Males 97, Females 74

	Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
2	Other infective & parasitic diseases ..	1	—	1
3	Malignant neoplasm, stomach... ..	—	1	1
4	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .	4	—	4
5	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	6	6
6	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	9	20
7	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	14	11	25
8	Coronary disease, angina	22	12	34
9	Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	—	1
10	Other heart disease	8	14	22
11	Other circulatory disease	1	2	3
12	Influenza	1	1	2
13	Pneumonia	4	3	7
14	Bronchitis	5	4	9
15	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
16	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1	1
17	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	2	—	2
18	Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1	1
19	Congenital malformation	1	—	1
20	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	4	11
21	Motor vehicle accidents	6	1	7
22	All other accidents	4	3	7
23	Suicide	3	—	3
		97	74	171

ENGLAND AND WALES

BIRTH and DEATH-RATES, and ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY during the year 1966. (Provisional figures based on Registrar-General's Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	Birth-Rate per 1,000 Population		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population						Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Tuberculosis (all forms)	Coronary and Arteriosclerotic (Heart disease)	Cancer (Lung & Bronchus)	Cancer (Other)	Infant Mortality	Neo-Natal Mortality	Peri-Natal Mortality	Maternal Mortality
Isle of Axholme Rural District											
Estimated home population mid-1966 — 14,510	15.71	0.275 17.24(a)	11.78	0.069	1.65	0.277	1.87	21.93	8.62	21.155	Nil
England and Wales											
Estimated home population mid-1966 — 48,075,300	17.7	0.275 15.4(a)	11.7	0.049	2.389	0.562	1.628	19.0	12.9	26.3	0.256

(a) per 1,000 total (live and still) births

INFANT MORTALITY

Infant deaths under one year of age for 1966 were five. The causes of these deaths are listed.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under one week	Under one month	Under three months	Under six months	Under nine months	Total under one year
All Causes	1	2	1	—	1	5
Prematurity	1	2	—	—	—	3
Acute Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	—	1	1
Hydrocephalus	—	—	1	—	—	1

	Isle of Axholme R.D.C.	England & Wales
Infant Mortality Rate (i.e., Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	21.93	18.9
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (i.e., Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)	8.62	12.9
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (i.e., Still Births and Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live and still births)	21.155	26.3

MATERNAL MORTALITY

No maternal deaths occurred during the year.

Table showing the total number of births (live births plus still births) and the total number of maternal deaths.

Year	Total Number of Births	Number of Maternal Deaths
1966 ..	228	Nil
1965 ...	257	Nil
1964	264	Nil
1963	240	Nil
1962	260	Nil
1961 ..	222	Nil

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

A. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Health Information

Enquiries relating to local health services may be made of the Medical Officer of Health, Health Department, The Guildhall, Gainsborough. The County Medical Officer is Dr. C. D. Cormac, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.; P.O. Box No. 26, County Offices, Lincoln. Many various facilities are available under the following headings:

Maternity Service.

Child Care.

Home Nursing.

Health Visitors.

Home Help.

Sick Room Requisites, Appliances and other equipment.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Mental Health.

Ambulance Service.

Minor Ailment Clinics for School Children.

Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinics.

The County Council's Clinics function in the Isle of Axholme at the following times and places:

CROWLE. Women's Institute

Infant Welfare Centre

1st and 3rd Wednesday in the month, 2 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinic

1st and 3rd Wednesday morning in the month, 10 a.m.

EPWORTH. Thurlow Methodist Schoolroom

Infant Welfare Centre

2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon in the month.

HAXEY. Memorial Hall

Infant Welfare Centre

2nd and 4th Thursday morning in the month.

Ante-Natal Clinic

2nd and 4th Wednesday morning in the month.

KEADBY. St. John Ambulance Hut

Infant Welfare Centre

2 p.m. each Tuesday.

The County Council as the Local Education Authority is responsible for the School Health Service. In addition to the clinics mentioned above, specialist services are arranged, with the co-operation of the child's family doctor, through the hospital services.

B. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

These consist of General Practitioner medical and obstetrical care, with the provision of medicines, drugs and medical and surgical appliances; dental care and a supplementary eye service with provision for the testing of eyesight and the supply of glasses.

C. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

Hospital and Specialist services are provided by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. They are responsible for the adequate provision of all forms of treatment in both general and specialised hospitals. This is provided both on an in-patient and out-patient basis.

HOUSING STATISTICS

TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:—

(1) By the Local Authority	45
(2) By other Local Authorities	—
(3) By other bodies or persons	102
(4) Number allocated for replacing houses subject to Demolition Orders or otherwise demolished	19

HOUSING REPAIRS & RENTS ACT, 1954-57:—

Number of certificates of disrepair issued	—
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INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	218
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	253

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	31
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(1) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	7
(b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(i) by owners	2
(ii) by local authority in default of owners	5
(2) Proceedings under Housing Acts:	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(i) by owners	3
(ii) by the local authority in default of owners	1
(iii) Number of unfit houses purchased by local authority in accordance with Housing Acts	—
(c) Number of certificates of disrepair issued	—
(3) Slum Clearance—proceedings under the Housing Acts:	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made (individual unfit houses only)	53
(b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (individual unfit houses only)	16
(c) Number of dwelling-houses, or parts, subject to Closing Orders	—
(d) Number of dwelling-houses, or parts, rendered fit by undertakings	2
(e) Number of dwelling-houses included in confirmed Clearance Orders	—
(f) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance thereof	41
(g) Total number of dwelling-houses on which Demolition Orders are operative and which are still occupied except under the provisions of Sections 34, 35 and 46 of the Housing Act, 1957	—

(h)	Total number of dwelling-houses occupied under Section 34, 35 and 46 of the Housing Act, 1957	—
(i)	Houses demolished or closed voluntarily by owners which would otherwise have been the subject of statutory action to secure demolition or closure	3
(4)	Nissen huts or other similar Hutments:—	
(a)	Number still occupied	—
(b)	Date by which it is anticipated occupants will be rehoused	—
(5)	Estimated number of dwellings, excluding those under paragraph (4) above remaining to be dealt with under:—	
(a)	The Housing Act, 1957, Sections 16 and 18	57
(b)	The Housing Act, 1957, Section 42	110

HOUSING ACTS — OVERCROWDING:—

(a)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	7
(b)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	2
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	7

HOUSING ACTS, 1949-59:—

Number of dwellings for which applications for grants have been received:—			
	(a)	Standard Grant	57
	(b)	Discretionary Grant ...	21
Number of dwellings subject to grant:—			
	(a)	Standard Grant	53
	(b)	Discretionary Grant ...	18
Number of houses owned by local authority which have been the subject of grant aid by the Ministry			3

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS, TENTS, VANS, etc.:—

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960:			
Number of site licences			43
Total number of caravans permitted under such licences ..			63
Number of inspections during the year: Sites			38
Caravans			45
Number of contraventions remedied			—
Number of sites exempt from licence			3
Number of caravans thereon			8
Number of holiday chalets			—

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936:—

Number of site licences			—
Number of individual licences			—
Total number of moveable dwellings permitted under above licences			—
Number of inspections during the year: Sites			—
Dwellings			—
Number of contraventions remedied			—
Number of sites exempt from licence			—
Number of moveable dwellings thereon			—

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The number of cases of infectious disease notified was 47 compared with 128 in 1965.

Details of infectious disease are as follows:—

TABLE I

Disease	No. of Cases Notified
Measles	37
Dysentery	2
Whooping Cough	6
Erysipelas	1
Tuberculosis (pulmonary)	1
	<hr/>
Total ...	47
	<hr/>

TABLE II

Parish	Measles	Whooping Dysentery	Cough	Erysipelas	Tuberculosis Pulmonary
Belton	1	—	—	1	—
Crowle	26	—	—	—	1
Epworth	1	—	—	—	—
Haxey	5	—	5	—	—
West					
Butterwick	1	—	—	—	—
Westwoodside	2	2	1	—	—
Wroot	1	—	—	—	—
	<hr/>				
Total ...	37	2	6	1	1
	<hr/>				

TABLE III
AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Ages	Measles	Dysentery	Whooping	
			Cough	Erysipelas
0 — 1	2	—	—	—
1 — 2	3	—	—	—
2 — 3	3	—	1	—
3 — 4	5	—	1	—
4 — 5	12	—	1	—
5 — 10	12	1	2	—
10 — 15	—	—	—	—
15 — 20	—	1	—	1
20 — 35	—	—	—	—
35 upwards	—	—	—	—
Age unknown ...	—	—	1	—
<hr/>				
Totals ...	37	2	6	1
<hr/>				

TABLE IV

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Measles	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	4	—	1	29	—	37
Dysentery... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	6
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	2	—	1	—	1	—	2	4	6	1	29	1	47

TUBERCULOSIS

There was one new case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year. There was no new case of non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. One death from Tuberculosis occurred.

Table (a) shows the incidence of new cases and deaths as regards age and sex. Table (b) is a copy of the Tuberculosis Register.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1966

Table (a) — New Cases and Deaths

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Periods	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 2 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2- 3 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3- 4 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4- 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

Table (b) TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER, 1966

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Grand Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
On Register 31/12/65	39	17	56	5	4	9	44	21	65
Additions:									
Primary Notifications	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Posthumous Notifications	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transferred from other areas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Returned to the district	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transferred from other sections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Additions	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Deductions									
Deaths	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Left the district	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Recovered	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diagnosis not confirmed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transferred to other sections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Deductions	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
On Register 31/12/66	39	17	56	5	4	9	44	21	65

CANCER

The number of deaths due to cancer in 1966 was 31 in comparison with 20 in the previous year. The sites of the disease are shown in the following table.

Site of Malignant Neoplasm		1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961
Stomach	M	—	2	2	2	4	2
	F	1	1	2	1	1	—
Lung and Bronchus	M	4	3	5	1	5	2
	F	—	—	—	—	1	2
Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	6	2	2	4	1	3
Uterus	F	—	—	2	—	3	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	11	8	10	9	5	12
	F	9	3	8	2	7	6
Totals	M	15	14	19	12	14	17
	F	16	6	15	8	13	12
Grand Total		31	20	34	20	27	29

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Particulars of immunisations and vaccinations carried out in the
Isle of Axholme Rural District during 1966

Diphtheria	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
Immunisations								
Initials	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7
Boosters	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
Immunisations								
	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
Immunisations								
Initials	91	108	16	9	3	4	—	231
Boosters	—	3	78	23	16	17	—	137

Diphtheria and Tetanus	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
Immunisations								
Initials	—	—	—	—	—	42	—	42
Boosters	—	—	—	—	1	129	3	133

Whooping Cough	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
Immunisations								
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Whooping Cough and Tetanus	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
Immunisations								
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Smallpox	Under 1	1—4	5—15	Total
Vaccination	12	83	5	100
Re-vaccination	—	—	2	2

Tetanus
Immunisations

	Under 1	1—4	5—14	15 or over	Total
Initial courses	—	—	11	17	28
Boosters	—	—	2	2	4

Vaccination against Tuberculosis

There were no BCG vaccinations carried out in the
Isle of Axholme during 1966

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Year of Birth	SALK VACCINE			ORAL VACCINE		
	Two Injections	Third Injection	Fourth Injection	Initial Course of three Doses	Oral Booster after two Salk Injections	Booster Dose of Oral Vaccine
1966	—	—	—	24	—	—
1965	—	—	—	173	—	—
1964	—	—	—	28	—	1
1963	—	—	—	11	—	2
1962	—	—	—	3	—	2
1961	—	—	—	7	—	81
1960	—	—	—	3	—	56
1959	—	—	—	2	—	9
1958	—	—	—	2	—	5
1957	—	—	—	1	—	2
1956	—	—	—	—	—	5
1955	—	—	—	—	—	3
1954	—	—	—	—	—	1
1953	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	—	—	—	—	—	2
1951	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	314	—	169

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

This service is provided by the County Council and I, as School Medical Officer, carried out inspections, etc., in our schools. The state of health, general nutrition and cleanliness of the children was of a high standard. Routine medical inspection is carried out on children in their first year at school, in their first year at secondary school, and in their last year at school. Besides these routine medical inspections, children with any defects are regularly seen at "supervisory" examinations and any child referred by a parent or teacher is given a "special" examination. I am grateful to the County Medical Officer for permission to include the following summary of work carried out during 1966 in our area.

TABLE A
ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION

Age Groups inspected (by years of birth)	Number of Children				Physical Condition	
	No. of Pupils inspected	Found to require treatment (including cases under treatment —excluding dental diseases, and infestation with vermin)			Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
		For defective vision excluding squint	For any other condition	Total individuals requiring treatment		
1962 and later	—	—	—	—	—	—
1961	70	1	5	4	70	—
1960	95	2	4	6	95	—
1959	12	—	1	1	12	—
1958	5	—	—	—	5	—
1957	3	—	—	—	3	—
1956	7	—	—	—	7	—
1955	4	—	—	—	4	—
1954	45	2	4	6	45	—
1953	18	—	1	1	18	—
1952	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951 and earlier	75	—	4	4	75	—
TOTAL	334	5	19	22	334	—

TABLE B

Inspections carried out in the Isle of Axholme Rural District
during 1966

DEFECT	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
	No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation	Requiring treatment	Requiring observation
Skin	4	3	—	—
Eyes				
(a) Vision	5	3	—	—
(b) Squint	2	1	—	—
(c) Other	1	—	—	—
Ears				
(a) Hearing	1	10	—	—
(b) Otitis Media	—	4	—	1
(c) Other	—	2	—	—
Nose and Throat	2	4	—	—
Speech	—	1	—	—
Lymphatic Glands	—	—	—	—
Heart	—	1	—	—
Lungs	1	6	—	—
Developmental				
(a) Hernia	—	—	—	—
(b) Other	5	1	—	—
Orthopaedic				
(a) Posture	—	2	—	—
(b) Feet	—	—	—	—
(c) Other	2	4	—	—
Nervous System				
(a) Epilepsy	—	1	—	—
(b) Other	—	1	—	—
Psychological				
(a) Development	—	1	—	—
(b) Stability	1	—	—	—
Abdomen	—	—	—	—
Other	—	4	—	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

ANALYSIS OF FOOD PREMISES WITHIN THE DISTRICT

Type of Business	No. of Premises
General Grocers and Provision Dealers ...	56
Greengrocers and Fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.) ...	6
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.) ...	29
Bakers and/or Confectioners ...	6
Fried Fish Shops ...	14
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc. ...	7
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Canteens, Restaurants, Cafes, Snack Bars, etc. ...	52
Total ...	170

195 inspections were made during the year of the above premises, and of 36 contraventions found, 25 were remedied.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955, SECTION 16 REGISTERED PREMISES

Type of Business	No. Registered	No. of inspections during year
Ice Cream (manufacture)...	—	—
Ice Cream (storage & sale)	66	47
Preparation & manufacture of Meat Products, including Meat Pies ...	29	33
Totals ...	95	80

MILK AND DAIRIES

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1960

The above Regulations transferred, as of October 1st, 1960, the responsibility for the administration of retail distributors of milk from smaller Authorities to the Food and Drugs Authorities. Licences are issued by the Lindsey County Council.

Number of Milk Pasteurising Dairies	—
Number of dealers retailing T.T. Milk (Pasteurised), Pasteurised Milk and Sterilised Milk	14
Number of dealers retailing Sterilised Milk only	33
Number of dealers retailing Tuberculin Tested Milk (raw)	1

(A) SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN IN COURSE OF DELIVERY (SPECIFIED AREAS)

Pasteurised	116
Sterilised	39

All of the foregoing samples satisfied the Posphatase Test for the efficiency of heat treatment and the Methylene Blue Test for keeping quality

(B) SAMPLES OF MILK FOR BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Two samples of raw milk were taken for biological examination and showed no evidence of tuberculosis or brucella abortus.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is responsible for the control of milk production. The supervising of pasteurising plants is exercised by the Lindsey County Council.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (SPECIFIED AREAS) ORDER, 1956

The above order requires all milk sold within the district to be sold under special designations. The special designations authorised by the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949-1954, are Pasteurised, Tuberculin Tested and Sterilised.

ICE CREAM

There are on the Register 66 retailers who retail only pre-packed ice cream.

47 inspections were made during the year of the 66 premises and of five contraventions found, five were remedied.

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1966, provides for the sampling of food and drugs for analysis or for bacteriological and other examinations. The Lindsey County Council is the authority responsible for these duties. I am grateful to Dr. C. D. Cormac, County Medical Officer of Health, and Mr. G. Collinson, County Health Inspector, for the following information.

SAMPLES TAKEN UNDER FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Article sampled	No. of Samples taken
Milk	14
Processed milk, milk products	3
Tinned, bottled, dried products	3
Non-alcoholic beverages	2
Sugar, flour, confectionery	1
Meat and fish products	2
Vinegars, spices, flavourings, pickles	2
Cereal products	2
Medicines and drugs	3
Miscellaneous	1
	<hr/>
TOTAL ...	33
	<hr/>

One sample of pork sausage showed a deficiency in meat content. A warning was issued in respect of this sample.

MEAT, FOODS AND SLAUGHTERHOUSE INSPECTIONS

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	96	—	—	309	20
Number inspected	96	—	—	309	20
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	4	—	—	2	1
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	4.16	—	—	0.64	5.00
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticerosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

No horse slaughtering for human consumption is carried on within the district.

No veterinary ante-mortem inspection of animals is undertaken.

No action was necessary in regard to meat offered for sale by retail.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 to 1954

There are 20 slaughtermen licensed by the Council
under the above Acts.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied by the Doncaster and District Joint Water Board.

- (1) Approximately 40 per cent. of the water is derived from the Board's three boreholes at Hatfield, and 60 per cent. from the boreholes at Austerfield Pumping Station.
- (2) Reports on three samples of water taken by the Doncaster and District Joint Water Board from both sources.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION	Austerfield			Hatfield
	No. 1 Borehole	No. 2 Borehole	No. 3 Borehole	Pumping Station
Appearance	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear
Colour	Faintly yellow	Faintly yellow	Colourless	Colourless
Smell	None	None	None	None
GENERAL CHEMICAL EXAMINATION				
	Parts per million			
Reaction, pH Value	7.9	8.1	8.0	7.8
Free Carbon Dioxide as CO ₂	1.0	1.0	1.0	None
Ammonical Nitrogen as N	0.032	0.032	0.040	0.016
Albuminoid Nitrogen as N	0.032	0.024	0.040	0.016
Nitrous Nitrogen as N	None	None	None	None
Nitric Nitrogen as N	1.72	2.22	1.71	2.48
Poisonous Metals (lead, etc.)	None	None	None	None
Hardness (calculated from mineral analysis) as CaCO ₃	149.5	153.7	157.4	127.3
Temporary	116.5	111.4	116.5	65.8
Permanent	33.0	42.3	40.9	61.5
Permanganate Figure (four hours at 80 degrees F) as O	0.32	0.48	0.60	0.64
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	116.5	111.4	116.5	65.8
MINERAL ANALYSIS				
Silica as SiO ₂	5.00	6.00	5.00	6.00
Aluminium Oxide... ..	0.10	0.08	0.02	0.06
Iron Oxide	0.11	0.51	0.11	0.23
Calcium as Ca	33.44	35.58	42.44	35.48
Magnesium as Mg... ..	16.03	15.76	12.50	9.39
Sodium as Na	9.83	6.96	4.38	8.09
Carbonates as CO ₃	69.83	66.79	69.83	39.47
Chlorides as Cl	18.4	19.30	19.30	23.2
Nitrates as NO ₃	7.61	9.83	7.57	11.02
Sulphates as SO ₄	21.40	21.40	16.46	35.88
Fluorine as F (by the distillation method)	0.23	0.17	0.15	0.15
Manganese as Mn	None	None	None	None

Probable composition of mineral constituents:—

Silica	5.00	6.00	5.00	6.00
Aluminium Oxide... ..	0.10	0.08	0.02	0.06
Iron Oxide	0.11	0.51	0.11	0.23
Calcium Carbonate	83.52	88.86	105.99	65.83
Magnesium Carbonate	27.75	18.98	8.82	30.97
Magnesium Sulphate... ..	26.82	26.82	20.63	17.58
Magnesium Chloride... ..	10.21	19.07	22.67	22.87
Sodium Chloride	17.81	8.41	3.99	10.17
Sodium Nitrate	10.43	13.48	10.38	15.11
TOTAL ...	181.75	182.21	177.61	168.82

Calculated hardness:—

Temporary	116.5	111.4	116.5	65.8
Permanent	33.0	42.3	40.9	61.5
TOTAL ...	149.5	153.7	157.4	127.3

(3) Water supply not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

(4) Action taken in respect of any form of contamination:
Regular mains flushing is carried out.

(5) Number of dwellinghouses and number of population supplied from public water mains:—

Parish	No. of houses supplied from mains direct	No. of population supplied from mains direct	No. of houses supplied from mains by standpipes	No. of population supplied from mains by standpipes
Amcotts	76	239	6	21
Belton	528	1783	43	168
Crowle	1076	3089	25	118
Eastoft	117	311	14	48
Epworth	715	1958	22	71
Garthorpe	111	358	Nil	Nil
Haxey... ..	778	2282	37	121
Keadby-with-Althorpe	650	1731	8	11
Luddington	129	413	5	16
Owston Ferry	311	925	38	123
West Butterwick ...	233	667	Nil	Nil
Wroot... ..	116	399	10	37

In addition, the following miscellaneous properties were connected:—

BELTON: School Kitchen.

EPWORTH: Surgery.

HAXEY: Signal Box.

OWSTON FERRY: Concrete Mixing Site.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

This year progress continued on the Belton Sewerage Scheme. Sewerage of Belton continued and work was started to enlarge the Epworth Sewage Works to receive the discharge from the Belton Scheme.

The Northern Area Scheme, which will serve the villages of Eastoft, Luddington, Garthorpe and Amcotts, and the schemes to sewer Owston Ferry, Westwoodside and Wroot, and still for the future and little progress has been made in 1966.

The existing sewers leak, are inadequate and not designed as part of a proper sewerage system. Sewage from these areas discharge into dykes causing fouling of the land draining system. This leads to a serious public health nuisance, particularly in the summer months, when dykes stagnate and become, as I have said in the past, open sewers. Soak-away systems taking sullage water from Council houses have, during periods of rainfall, failed and caused a nuisance and serious inconvenience to residents.

I appreciate that the Council has a programme to complete the sewerage of the district and I only hope we shall proceed as quickly as possible. Delays in the past have been outside the Council's control. We must keep this problem before us and try to keep any delay as short as possible.

HOUSEHOLD REFUSE

Household refuse is collected from 5,016 premises in the area. The collection is a weekly one from bins placed by the kerbside. Disposal is by controlled tipping on two sites.

The purchase of an excavator loader has helped with the maintenance of the tips. It is now possible to keep these tips in a more satisfactory state and disposal is more controlled than it has been in the past.

Weekly nightsoil collections were also maintained, despite the unattractive nature of the work. For the first time septic tanks were emptied without charge and this has resulted in an increased demand for this service.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

No disinfection was carried out. Three premises were disinfested.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

During the year nine premises were licensed under the above Act, making a total of 97 and 47 inspections made.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following information extracted from the form prescribed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, is for the year ending 31st December, 1966.

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

		TYPE OF PROPERTY Non-Agricultural Agricultural	
1.	Number of properties in district	5062	644
2.	(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	48	25
	(b) Number infested by		
	(i) Rats	37	20
	(ii) Mice	9	5
3.	(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	388	368
	(b) Number infested by		
	(i) Rats	36	97
	(ii) Mice	29	15

SEWERS

4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year? No

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS

Nature of Visits or Inspections:		Total
Drainage	...	347
Fried Fish Shops	...	15
Tents, Vans, Caravans, Sheds...	...	55
Factories	...	16
Workplaces	...	11
Public Conveniences	...	28
Licensed Premises	...	12
Refuse Collection	...	32
Refuse Disposal	...	51
Rats and Mice	...	9
Schools	...	1
Shops	...	11
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits...	...	170
Byelaw Inspections	...	1995
Petroleum Regulations	...	21
Under Public Health Acts:		
Number of houses inspected	...	85
Visits made	...	40
Under Housing Acts:		
Number of houses inspected	...	118
Visits made	...	136
Miscellaneous housing visits	...	568
Improvement Grant visits	...	328
Planning enquiries	...	24
Sewage Works, etc.		73
Sewage samples	...	31
Inspection of Meat:		
Visits to slaughterhouse	...	105
Total meat inspection visits	...	93
Animal boarding visits	...	4
Visits to:		
Butchers	...	14
Bakeries	...	4
Food preparing premises...	...	6
Grocers	...	41
Greengrocers and fruiterers	...	4
Ice-cream premises	...	6
Wholesalers	...	2
Restaurants...	...	3
Offices and Shops Act	...	70
Inquiries in cases of infectious disease	...	4
Interviews	...	63
Miscellaneous infectious disease visits	...	2

DETAILS OF NUISANCES ABATED

	After informal intimation	After statutory notice
Refuse	14	—
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water	17	—
Drainage	27	—
Poultry and animals	2	—
Dangerous premises	2	—
Miscellaneous nuisances ...	23	—
Total ...	84	—

RODENT CONTROL

This important work has proceeded satisfactorily during the year. The full-time Rodent Operator spends the greater part of his time on survey work and he has acquired an intimate knowledge of the district. It is most unlikely that any serious infestation will remain unnoticed for any length of time and the Council is fortunate in having such a conscientious employee engaged on this important public health work. In the absence of large scale epidemics of infectious diseases we tend to forget that this is so largely, because vital public health principles are being observed. One of these is that the rat population must be kept to a minimum and it is pleasing to be able to record that in your district this is being done.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

The number of factories on the register, including eleven bakehouses, is 105. During the year 173 visits were paid to these premises, which resulted in four offences against the Act being remedied. This work has been facilitated by the ready co-operation which has been extended at all times by Her Majesty's Inspector for the District.

The following table in the form required by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, gives a summary of the work undertaken by the Public Health Inspectors.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspectn's (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecut'd (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	38	43	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	55	51	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (including out-workers' premises)	63	79	4	—
TOTAL	156	173	4	—

2.— Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Rem'd (3)	To H.M. Inspec. (4)	By H.M. Inspec. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective draining of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	1	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	3	Nil	4	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT
Outwork
(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
(1)						
Wearing apparel making, etc., cleaning and washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—		—

